

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Tuesday, December 21, 2021 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common and Zoom

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Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Michele Gonzales; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors: Bob Popp (Conservation Commission); Kate Hayes and Meg Eberhardt (Listers); Dave Torres; Asher Barnum

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

**Changes or additions to the agenda:** Park & Ride Agreement, Porch on Old Schoolhouse, Railroad Bed maintenance

**Public Comment:** none

**Minutes:** The Board approved the minutes of the December 7, 2021 meeting.

**Budget:** Kate spoke about the Listers' budget. The Listers would like to make the starting Lister salary \$15 per hour, and keep the differential based on experience. In 2021, the new Lister was started at the same rate as the previous Lister, rather than having a differential between a new Lister and an experienced Lister. Kate feels that the hours for next year will be sufficient because the extra work will likely be covered by the Reappraisal fund, but the following year will need to have increased hours because of the new system. She would like funds included for Cybersecurity.

**Natural Inventory:** Bob Popp presented the budget for the inventory. With the contributions from the Conservation Commission, the cost would be \$13,920. Rich moved to put it on the warning as a separate article. Chris seconded – all in favor.

**Route 2 and Cabot Road intersection:** Dave Torres supports the proposed plan but had a question about the change to his property taxes. Bobbi checked with the Listers and they indicated that a change of under 0.2 acres will be absorbed by the way the program rounds, and won't cause a change to the value. Rich explained that VTrans is working on exhibits and surveys and they will set up a zoom meeting when they have something firm to look at. Dave reiterated that he is in favor of the plan. Asher Barnum is a neighbor near the intersection and is in favor of the proposal.

**Generators:** Bobbi will ask the Road Crew and Fire Department for their opinion on the maintenance contracts.

**Old Schoolhouse Leases:** According to the leases, the blinds/shades are the responsibility of the tenants. The Selectboard discussed the rents. They have not been raised since 2012. It doesn't seem like a good time to raise rents, since the leases begin on January 1. The Board will revisit the rents in June or July, to give tenants plenty of notice if they are going to raise the rents.

**Old Schoolhouse Maintenance:** The Board adopted a job description for the maintenance position.

**Old Schoolhouse Parking Lot:** The Board discussed the car that has been in the parking lot for several weeks. They decided to leave it for now, and ask the Road Crew if it is in the way.

**Park and Ride Agreement:** The Board approved the grant agreement.

**Library Porch:** The Board reviewed the proposals from DeWolfe Engineering and Black River Design. The DeWolfe proposal is \$3,500, and the Black River Design proposal is \$3,890. Black River was able to respond quicker to the proposal. Chris moved to use Black River Design. Michele seconded – all in favor.

**Railroad Bed:** Rich noted that the Forest Farmers folks are plowing the Class IV road from the end of Bailey Pond Road to the bulkhead. He would like to ask them on behalf of the Selectboard to leave a strip of the road uncleared, or leave a few inches of snow, so that it would be usable by skiers and snowmobilers. Michele and Chris agreed.

**Budgets:** The Board added more hours for the Old Schoolhouse Common maintenance, higher rates for Listers, and \$1,000 for training for the Listers. They suggested including money for Cybersecurity. The Library Trustees lowered their request to a 2% increase, by taking funds from their investment account.

**Expenses, Permits & Payroll:** Selectboard members read and approved reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the December 21, 2021 Selectboard Meeting.  
A True Record. Attest, \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk

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